

It is anticipated that up to \$4 million will be available for multiple grants awarded in FY 1997 and FY 1998, contingent upon availability of appropriated funds. Applications may request project support up to three years, with out-year support contingent on availability of funds, progress of the research, and programmatic needs. Annual budgets are expected to range from approximately \$50,000 to \$500,000. Applications should include detailed budgets for each year of support requested. The technical portion of the application should not exceed twenty-five (25) double-spaced pages. Lengthy application appendices are not encouraged.

Applications will be subjected to formal merit review (peer review) and will be evaluated against the following evaluation criteria which are listed in descending order of importance codified at 10 CFR 605.10(d):

1. Scientific and/or Technical Merit of the Project;
2. Appropriateness of the Proposed Method or Approach;
3. Competency of Applicant's personnel and Adequacy of Proposed Resources;
4. Reasonableness and Appropriateness of the Proposed Budget.

The evaluation will include program policy factors such as the relevance of the proposed research to the terms of the announcement and an agency's programmatic needs. Note, external peer reviewers are selected with regard to both their scientific expertise and the absence of conflict-of-interest issues. Non-federal reviewers will often be used, and submission of an application constitutes agreement that this is acceptable to the investigator(s) and the submitting institution.

To provide a consistent format for the submission, review and solicitation of grant applications submitted under this notice, the preparation and submission of grant applications must follow the guidelines given in the Application Guide for the Office of Energy Research Financial Assistance Program 10 CFR Part 605. Access to ER's Financial Assistance Application Guide is possible via the World Wide Web at: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for this program is 81.049, and the solicitation control number is ERFAP 10 CFR Part 605.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 13, 1997.

John Rodney Clark,
Associate Director for Resource Management,
Office of Energy Research.

[FR Doc. 97-4429 Filed 2-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-243-000]

ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of Application

February 18, 1997.

Take notice that on February 12, 1997, ANR Pipeline Company (ANR), 500 Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan 48243, filed in Docket No. CP97-243-000 an application pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act for authorization to utilize temporary work spaces associated with a pipeline replacement project located in Berrien County, Michigan, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

ANR proposes to replace 1.12 mile of 22-inch pipeline with heavier wall pipe in order to continue to meet the safety requirements of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations. ANR states that the required replacement has been triggered by an increase in population density in Berrien County, Michigan. ANR states that in this area, ANR's main line consists of three parallel pipelines: a 22-inch O.D. mainline; a 30-inch O.D. loop line; and a 42-inch O.D. loop line. ANR maintains that both loop lines are currently in compliance with DOT regulations.

ANR states that the pipeline replacement project consists of removing and replacing in the same trench 5,905 feet of the 22-inch O.D. main line. ANR states that the replacement project will not include replacement of the pipeline crossing under the St. Joseph River and 61 and 81 feet on the west and east sides of the river, respectively. ANR states that the replacement will begin at Mile Post 927.45 and proceed northeast for 5,361 feet toward the southwest bank of the St. Joseph River where it will connect with the existing 22-inch O.D. main line. ANR further states that the replacement will continue on the northeast side of the St. Joseph River for an additional 544 feet where it will connect with the existing 22-inch O.D. main line. ANR maintains that when the pipeline replacement has been completed, the entire length of the pipeline, including the crossing under

the St. Joseph River, will be hydrostatically tested to DOT standards.

ANR states that the pipeline replacement will be made within ANR's existing permanent right-of-way and will be placed in the same trench as the pipe being removed. ANR states that the pipeline replacement will not alter the capacity of ANR's main line and no compression or above ground facilities are associated with the project. It is stated that during the period that the pipeline replacement is taking place, service will continue to be provided to customers through the adjacent 30-inch and 42-inch loop lines.

ANR states that in order to make the replacement it will have to utilize work areas which may not have been included in the scope of the original authorization, 5 FPC 953, to construct the facilities. Therefore, ANR requests the temporary use of work space in order to make the replacement. ANR states that the construction will be done under Section 2.55(b) of the Commission's Regulations and has an estimated cost of \$1,471,140.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before March 11, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for ANR to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-4402 Filed 2-21-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. CP94-161-006]

Avoca Natural Gas Storage; Notice of Amendment

February 18, 1997.

Take notice that on February 11, 1997, Avoca Natural Gas Storage (Avoca), One Bowdoin Square, Boston, MA 02114, filed in Docket No. CP94-161-006, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act, an amendment to the certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by the Commission on September 20, 1994, in Docket No. CP94-161-000. Avoca seeks to construct a brine pipeline, all as more fully set forth in the amendment which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Specifically, Avoca seeks to amend its certificate to change the method of brine disposal. Avoca proposes to construct a 45-mile brine pipeline from its storage facility in Avoca, NY to two salt processing plants in Watkins Glen, NY. Avoca states that this will provide it with a viable means of disposing of the brine that will be generated from solution mining of the salt caverns that will be used to store natural gas. As authorized, Avoca was to drill disposal wells into which the brine created by the solution mining of the salt caverns would be injected. However, it has been determined that this method is no longer a viable option for disposal of brine.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said amendment should on or before March 11, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this amendment if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Avoca to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-4400 Filed 2-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. OA97-519-000]

Bangor Hydro-Electric Company; Notice of Filing

February 18, 1997.

Take notice that on January 31, 1997, Bangor Hydro-Electric Company ("Bangor") tendered for filing pursuant to Order No. 889, its Code of Conduct.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 210, 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.210, 385.211 and 385.214). All such petitions or protests should be filed on or before February 28, 1997. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a petition to intervene. Copies of this application are on file with the Commission and available for inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-4404 Filed 2-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. OA97-520-000]

Citizens Utilities Company; Notice of Filing

February 18, 1997.

Take notice that on January 31, 1997, Citizens Utilities Company (Citizens) tendered for filing in Docket No. OA97-520-000, Standards of Conduct and Procedures for Compliance applicable to its Vermont Electric Division ("VED"). In addition, Citizens requests waiver of Section 37.4 of the Commission's regulations, 18 CFR 37.4, in order to allow one employee of its VED to engage in both wholesale merchant functions and transmission operations of a six-month period.

Citizens, as more fully detailed in its filing, states that its Standards of Conduct are in substantial compliance with the requirements of Order No. 889 and Section 37.4 of the Commission's regulations issued thereunder.

Citizens states that it served copies of this filing on all affected state commissions and customers, as well as on certain other interested parties.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filings should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before February 28, 1997. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-4405 Filed 2-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. RP97-149-000]

Gas Research Institute; Notice of Public Conference

February 18, 1997.

Take notice that on March 21, 1997, the members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will hold a public conference to discuss the future funding of research and development (R&D) in the natural gas industry. Specifically, the members of the Commission are interested in a public policy discussion of the appropriate role